

Message Text

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11

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-09 /014 W
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R 120045Z MAY 76
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9450

UNCLAS TAIPEI 3020

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SEDU TW
SUBJECT: TOEFL TESTING

1. EDUCATIONAL TESTING SERVICE (ETS) HAS ADVISED NUMEROUS AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES THAT TOEFL SCORES FROM TAIWAN FOR SEPTEMBER, NOVEMBER, 1975 UNUSUALLY HIGH.
2. WE DO NOT HAVE FULL PICTURE, BUT WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN HAS INTERPRETED THE ETS INFORMATION TO MEAN THAT BECAUSE THE UNIVERSITY HAS NO WAY IDENTIFY STUDENTS HAVING PRIOR KNOWLEDGE, ALL APPLICANT SCORES FROM THE SEPTEMBER,NOVEMBER TOEFL TESTS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE, WE HAVE SEEN ONE LETTER TO A STUDENT INFORMING HER THAT THE ILLINOIS OFFER OF ADMISSION NOW RETRACTED UNTIL VALID, ACCEPTABLE SCORE SUBMITTED. PERMIT TO ENTER AND I-20 ALSO CANCELLED UNTIL RECEIPT OF ACCEPTABLE SCORE, AT WHICH TIME ADMISSION WILL BE REACTIVATED.
3. SO FAR 49 STUDENT APPLCANTS FROM ILLINOIS AND 13 OTHER AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS HAVE SUBMITTED REQUESTS FOR RETESTS TO TAIPEI LANGUAGE CENTER.
4. POST BELIEVES RATHER ARBITRARY CANCEL PERMITS TO ENTER AND I-20'S, THUS NECESSITATING LATER REACTIVATION AND POSSIBLE CAUSING DELAYS WHICH WOULD AFFECT STUDENT ATTENDANCE AT BEGINNING OF SEMESTER. THIS PARTICULARLY TRUE FOR THOSE STUDENTS WHO CAN BE IDENTIFIED AS NOT HAVING ATTENDED SPECIAL COACHING SCHOOLS. (COACHING SCHOOLS OBTAIN ADVANCE INFORMATION ON TEST CONTENT AND

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PREP TESTEES MORNING OF TOEFL FOR A FEE.) POST AND ETS

NOW BELIEVE PROBLEM CAN BE SOLVED BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 1976
TEST.

5. IS IT POSSIBLE DEPARTMENT CONTACT COLLEGES AND REQUEST
THEY HOLD I-20'S AND PERMITS TO ENTER IN ABEYANCE UNTIL
RESULTS NEW TESTS KNOWN RATHER THAN CANCELLING IN SUCH
CASES AS THEY ARE ASKING STUDENTS TO RETEST?

6. ALSO, IS ETS AWARE THAT THEIR NOTIFICATION TO COLLEGES
ABOUT HIGH TAIWAN TOEFL SCORES IS BEING INTERPRETED SO
DRASTICALLY?
UNGER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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